

### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MATT BRUNO

(Mr. DENHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, this past weekend, California's central valley lost a great leader, a leader in the dairy construction field, a man that has been a supporter to many community causes, such as the Education Foundation of Stanislaus County, Center for Human Services, and the Memorial Hospital Foundation.

Matt Bruno owned and operated Turlock Dairy & Refrigeration, which employed 65 employees. He played a key role in the expansion of dairy farming in the area. His family grew peaches, almonds, and grapes, and he still continued that tradition on the farm where he was raised.

He graduated from Ripon High School, was very active in real estate investing and commercial properties, and in 1972 he bought Turlock Refrigeration Center. A year later, he bought Turlock-based Miller Dairy Supply, and the two companies were merged in 1974.

Matt Bruno is survived by his wife, Barbara; sons, Tony and Matt; three grandchildren; brother, Ed Bruno of Ripon; and sister, Vickie Maselis of Modesto.

On this day, the House of Representatives will celebrate his life.

### WAR ON THE MIDDLE CLASS

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, Republican leaders have made the laughable accusation that the President is engaging in class warfare. What President Obama is actually doing is ending class warfare, the relentless war on the middle class. Since 1983, over 80 percent of the growth in income has gone to the richest 5 percent of Americans, while the bottom 60 percent has lost 7.5 percent in income, of real income. That's the majority of Americans that are doing worse.

When I was growing up, a family could live a middle class life on one good job, often a good union job, public or private sector, with health benefits and a pension. That was the normal. Seems like the new normal in America, the one that I see the Republicans promoting is the rich get richer, the middle class is disappearing, and the poor get even poorer.

We need to enact bold laws like the President's American Jobs Act and common sense and fair budget proposals, both of which would help restore the middle class, protect the poor, and keep America strong.

### UNLEASH THE AMERICAN ECONOMY

(Mr. NUNNELEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NUNNELEE. Madam Speaker, our Nation is faced with 10 percent unemployment and rising, out-of-control deficits. And the Obama administration solution: spend more, tax more, and regulate more. This has created an environment that has destroyed confidence and increased unemployment.

Instead, Washington must create an environment favorable to job creation. We must rein in out-of-control spending. This fall, we will vote on a balanced budget amendment that will require Washington to do what families and small businesses already do: live within their means. We must remain focused on relieving the regulations that are choking job creation. And lastly, we must concentrate on tax reform, not tax increases, because increased taxes are the enemy of job creation.

The American people don't want more solutions from the Federal Government; they want the Federal Government to get out of the way. And if we do those things, we will unleash the American economy and give businesses the confidence they need to grow and to create jobs.

### WE'RE LOSING OUR MIDDLE CLASS

(Mr. MORAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MORAN. Madam Speaker, corporate profits have now reached historically high levels—\$2 trillion just in the last two quarters. But most of that profit comes from reductions in personnel and benefit costs which are at a 50-year low as a percent of our economy. This is one of the reasons why the richest 1 percent earn as much as the bottom 60 percent and have as much wealth as the bottom 90 percent of Americans. Tax cuts for the richest, as the House majority demands, is only going to widen this historic disparity. The President's Jobs Act, though, will help to close this gap.

Madam Speaker, we're losing our middle class. Our country is becoming divided between the very rich and the rest. That may be good for the financial base of the Republican Party, but it's bad for America. The private sector will start to hire when the public sector shows it has sufficient faith in our future to adequately invest in the physical and the human infrastructure of this country. It takes money, but the future of our middle class is worth it.

### JOB CREATION AND GROWTH

(Mr. STUTZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUTZMAN. Madam Speaker, the American people want to be in the business of job creation and growth. Unfortunately, Washington is in the business of regulating, spending, and taxing.

This administration has barreled down the road of massive deficits, historic debt, and ridiculous mandates. We all know where that road leads—right off a cliff.

Job creators know that our \$14.6 trillion debt is a tax on the American taxpayer. They know that higher taxes mean fewer jobs. And they know that focusing on compliance rather than innovation is a failing business model.

But in the face of these difficult times, Americans are optimistic. Not even the worst unemployment since the Great Depression can kill the American spirit. Washington can give job creators confidence by living within its means and reining in the regulatory machine. The American drive to succeed will take care of the rest.

Job creators are ready for real growth, not another failed stimulus. Let's pass a balanced budget amendment to require Washington to use common sense, just like Americans do.

□ 1240

### WE LOVE OUR CARRIE MEEK

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, we love you, Carrie Meek. And I am delighted to rise today to admit that Carrie Meek, Congresswoman Meek, was a mentor to me and someone who drew the admiration of Republicans and Democrats and did some unique and remarkable activities here in this Congress.

One, as a freshman, she pushed enough to become a member of the Appropriations Committee and led graciously during her tenure. And then she worked very closely with Republicans and Democrats to fight to ensure that cigarette packages had warnings about the impact—the negative impact—on groups like African Americans.

Carrie, do you remember the picture that we took with Rosa Parks and some of our colleagues, and how gracious you were? And do you remember the 25,000 people in Florida when they were trying to overturn affirmative action? And yes, you walked as long and as hard as anybody else.

So, Carrie, I think the jobs bill that the President has could be named after you, where it provides some 80 percent compensation to small businesses to hire people. That sounds like Carrie Meek. And I think we can resolve the CR and provide for those who have suffered disasters and do the right thing. That sounds like Carrie Meek. So I'm here to pay tribute to our friend, Carrie Meek, and to thank her for sending her son, Kendrick, who is a great